Message Text

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:CGEN, ENRG, BD

SUBJECT: IRS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON BUTTERFIELD BANK ACCOUNT

REF: STATE 161863

- 1. STATE 161863 TRANSMITTED REQUEST TO DEPARTMENT FROM HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE IN SECURING BERMUDIAN COOPERATION IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO CERTAIN BANK RECORDS OF THE BANK OF N. T. BUTTERFIELD AND SON.
- 2. DEPARTMENT HAS SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED LETTER FROM JOSEPH G. MCGOWAN, IRS DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, REQUESTING SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH A CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BEING CARRIED ON BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE IRS. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS.

3. "IN CONNECTION WITH A CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION OF MR. IGLESIAS BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, WE REQUEST YOUR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING CERTAIN BANK INFORMATION FROM BERMUDA

"MR. IGLESIAS WAS AT LEAST 50 OWNER OF SELMAN HOLDINGS, LIMITED, BERMUDA AND PERAM, LIMITED, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS. BOTH CORPORATIONS MAINTAINED ACCOUNTS WITH THE BANK OF N. T. BUTTERFIELD & SON, LIMITED, HAMILTON, BERMUDA. DURING THE PERIOD 1973 THROUGH 1976, THESE BANK ACCOUNTS WERE USED FOR THE DEPOSIT OF APPROXIMATELY \$11,000,000 IN COMMISSIONS FROM OIL SALES, THE LARGEST DEPOSITS OCCURRING IN 1974. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO DETERMINE THAT ANY REAL SERVICE WAS PERFORMED BY THESE TWO FOREIGN CORPORATIONS. THE COMMISSIONS APPEAR TO BE KICKBACKS TO IGLESIAS.

"CERTAIN COMMISSION CHECKS SENT TO IGLESIAS WERE DE-POSITED TO THE CREDIT OF SELMAN IN THE BANK OF N. T. BUTTERFIELD & SON, LTD. TWO DIFFERENT ACCOUNTS WERE USED: NO. 2010-24437-1 AND NO. 2010-26867-2-8400. OTHER CHECKS WERE DEPOSITED TO THE CREDIT OF PERAM IN THE SAME BANK. THE ACCOUNT NUMBER IS NOT VERY LEGIBLE BUT APPEARS TO BE 2XX-28858-5 (X REPRESENTING ILLEGIBLE NUMERALS). CERTAIN OTHER CHECKS DEPOSITED WITHOUT AN ACCOUNT NUMBER SHOWN ON THE ENDORSEMENT RAISES THE POSSIBILITY OF STILL OTHER ;CCOUNTS AT THE BANK OF N. T. BUTTERFIELD & SON, LTD.

"SUCCESSFUL CRIMINAL PROSECUTION IN THIS CASE IS DEPENDENT UPON IRS OBTAINING THESE BANK RECORDS FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BERMUDA; THEREFORE, IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN THROUGH ITS OFFICIAL CHANNELS THE CANCELLED CHECKS, DEPOSIT SLIPS AND LEDGER SHEETS PERTAINING TO THE BERMUDA BANK ACCOUNTS OF SELMAN HOLDINGS, LIMITED AND PERAM, LIMITED IN THE BANK OF N. T. BUTTERFIELD & SON, LTD., HAMILTON, BERMUDA."

- 4. IN DISCUSSIONS OF THIS MATTER WITH GOB AUTHORITIES POST SHOULD ALSO POINT OUT THAT INFORMATION HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY RESPONSIBLE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCY UNDERTAKING CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION.
- 5. REPORT REQUESTED. CHRISTOPHER

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